

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Mississippi Baptist Association,
HELD WITH
The East Fork Baptist Church,
AMITE COUNTY, MISS.,
October 7, 8, 9 and 10, 1887.

OFFICERS:

ELD. R. N. HALL, Dickey, Miss., Moderator.
D. M. HUFF, Magnolia, Miss., Clerk.
W. Z. LEA, Liberty, Miss., Treasurer.

MAGNOLIA, MISS.:
THE WEEKLY GAZETTE BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
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MINUTES
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Mississippi Baptist Association.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Friday, October 7, 1887.

The Mississippi Baptist Association convened this day in its eighty-first session with the East Fork Church, Amite county, Miss.

The introductory sermon was preached at 11 o'clock, by Elder W. W. Bolls, from the words, "Ye are God's husbandry," i Cor., iii chapter, 9th verse; at the conclusion of which an intermission of two hours was given for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayer by Elder S. H. Thompson.

Elders H. S. Archer and T. C. Schilling were appointed reading clerks.

The following named churches were represented by letter and delegates, to-wit:

Centreville—J. C. Roberts.

East Fork—W. H. Tucker, H. G. Quin and W. Everett.

Ebenezer—C. A. Young.

Galilee—S. S. Faust, E. T. Smith and W. A. Wilkinson.

Hopewell—W. W. Bolls and T. J. Scott.

Liberty—W. Z. Lea, G. F. Webb and J. D. Lea.

Mars Hill—R. N. Hall, L. H. Garner, D. W. Fenn and R. B. Thompson.

McComb City—S. R. Quin, G. P. Hunt and D. M. Huff.

Mount Zion—Geo. Godbold, J. P. Jones, H. I. Weathersby, P. R. Jones and G. M. Cain.

New Hope—J. D. Cranfield and W. A. Prather.

New Providence—W. I. Causey and H. R. Causey.

New Salem—Henry Ballard.

New Zion—O. D. Newman and Dave Nunnery.

Rameh—Jas. C. Rushing and G. L. Dickey.

Sarepta—T. P. Stewart.

Siloam—W. D. Jones.

Summit—C. H. Otken, W. T. White and W. T. Johns.

Zion Hill—F. T. L. Tynes, J. H. Jones and D. M. Butler.

REORGANIZATION.

Elders R. J. Stewart and R. W. Merrill were appointed tellers, and the Association was reorganized by the election of the following named officers for the ensuing year, to-wit:

Elder R. N. Hall, Moderator.

D. M. Huff, Clerk.

W. Z. Lea, Treasurer.

NEW CHURCH ADMITTED.

A petitionary letter was read from the Bethel Baptist Church, and a committee, consisting of Elder H. S. Archer and brethren G. F. Webb and H. I. Weathersby, was appointed to examine the articles of faith of said church. The committee retired and after due consideration rendered a favorable report; and on taking a vote the church was unanimously received as a member of the Association, and brethren H. N. Shaw and R. E. Callender were given seats as delegates of said church to this session of the Association.

MESSENGERS.

Messengers from corresponding bodies being called for the following reported, who were cordially received and invited to seats, viz:

1. Elder J. B. Gambrell, from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.
2. Elder R. W. Merrill, from Bogue Chitto Association.
3. Elder W. L. A. Stranburg, from Union Association.
4. Elders T. C. Schilling and R. J. Stewart and Brother DeWitt Gordon, from Mississippi River Association.
5. Elders A. Sleeper and Washington Smith, from the Homochitto (colored) Association.

CORRESPONDENCE RETURNED.

The Moderator appointed the following named brethren as messengers to corresponding bodies, viz:

1. Bogue Chitto Association—S. H. Thompson, R. N. Hall and D. M. Huff.

2. Union Association—Henry Ballard, C. H. Otken and T. J. Scott.

3. Mississippi River Association—H. G. Quinn, W. H. Tucker, R. N. Hall, W. Z. Lea, S. H. Thompson and G. F. Webb.

4. Homochitto (colored) Association—Henry Ballard and G. M. Cain.

5. Mississippi College—G. F. Webb, C. H. Otken, H. G. Quinn and D. M. Huff.

6. Carey Association—T. P. Stewart, W. W. Bolls, J. P. Jones, J. A. Bolls and E. T. Smith.

7. Fair River Association—Correspondence discontinued.

8. Mississippi State Convention. On motion, any member of this Association attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention was authorized to represent us in that body at its next session.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

The Moderator announced the following committees, to-wit :

1. Religious Exercises—D. W. Fenn, J. C. Roberts, J. P. Jones and Deacons of East Fork Church.

2. Finance—S. J. Hodges, S. S. Faust and H. R. Causey.

3. Publications—C. H. Otken, W. T. Johns, J. D. Lea, T. P. Stewart, J. D. Cranfield and W. A. Prather.

4. Mississippi College—Geo. F. Webb, Geo. M. Cain and L. H. Garner.
5. Home and State Missions—T. J. Scott, S. R. Quin, Henry Ballard and C. A. Young.
6. Prohibition—W. W. Bolls, W. Z. Lea and R. W. Merrill.
7. Disorderly Churches—W. Z. Lea, T. C. Schilling, Wm. Stranburg, E. T. Smith and P. R. Jones.
8. Foreign Missions—W. L. A. Stranburg, O. D. Newman, R. E. Callender and H. N. Shaw.
9. Sunday Schools—E. T. Smith, G. P. Hunt, W. A. Wilkinson, J. P. Jones, G. L. Dickey and W. D. Jones.
10. Abstract of Letters—H. G. Quin, W. T. White, F. T. L. Tynes, R. B. Thompson and James Rushing.
11. Lea Female College—G. F. Webb, H. I. Weathersby, G. M. Cain, J. P. Jones and W. F. Love.
12. Obituaries—W. Everett, Dave Nunnery and G. L. Dickey.
13. Nominations—Geo. M. Cain, J. D. Lea and W. I. Causey.
14. Plan of Work—H. R. Causey, G. M. Cain, S. S. Faust and R. N. Hall.
15. Sustentation—W. Z. Lea, W. L. A. Stranburg and D. W. Fenn.

On motion of Bro. T. J. Scott it was ordered that this Association meet at 9 A. M., adjourn at 12 M., re-assemble at 1:30 P. M., and adjourn at 4:30 P. M.

On motion the Association then adjourned till 9

o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by Elder T. P. Stewart.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, October 8th, 1887.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Elder D. A. Givens led the Devotional Exercises, reading the Psalm XLVIII.

The minutes of preceding day were read and approved.

The resolution from New Hope Church was read and referred to a committee, composed of Elders C. H. Otken and T. P. Stewart and Bro. G. M. Cain.

The following query from Mars Hill Church was read and discussed, to-wit: "Should a church house be used for any other purpose than religious worship?"

On taking a vote it was decided that, in the opinion of the delegates present, it should not.

The following resolution from Summit Church was read and referred to a committee consisting of Elder R. J. Stewart and Brethren H. I. Weathersby and Geo. Godbold, to-wit:

Resolved, That this church memorialize the Association to urge upon all the churches composing its body to request of all traveling ministers not well known, to present their credentials of ordination before they are recognized in their ministerial office.

Elder W. W. Bolls read report of the Committee on

Prohibition, during the discussion of which the Association adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. B. Gambrell.

The discussion of the report on prohibition was resumed and, on motion, was amended and adopted. [Appendix A.]

Elder Chas. H. Otken read the report of the Committee on Publication, which was discussed and adopted. [Appendix B.]

Bro. T. J. Scott read the report of the Committee on Home and State Missions, which was discussed, amended and adopted. [Appendix C.]

Elder W. L. A. Stranburg read the report on disorderly churches, which was received and adopted without discussion. [Appendix D.]

Bro. Geo. M. Cain read the report made by the committee on the resolution from New Hope Church, which was discussed and unanimously adopted. [Appendix E.]

Elder R. J. Stewart read the report of the Committee on Resolution from the Summit Church, which was adopted. [Appendix F.]

The Committee on Religious Exercises for the ensuing day made the following report, which was received and adopted, to-wit:

Ladies Missionary Union shall meet at 9 o'clock A.

m., adjourn at 11 o'clock A. M.; reassemble at 2 o'clock P. M., adjourn at 4 o'clock P. M. Missionary sermon at 11 o'clock A. M., by Elder R. J. Stewart.

A leave of absence was granted Brethren W. D. Jones and W. A. Prather.

At 4 o'clock the Association adjourned. Prayer by Elder W. L. A. Stranburg.

THIRD DAY—SUNDAY, OCT. 9, 1887.

The exercises of the day began with an interesting session of the Ladies' Missionary Union, of which Sister P. L. Bates is president. The following named societies were represented, viz.: Mars Hill, Hopewell, East Fork, Gloster, Centreville, Liberty, Zion Hill, Ebenezer, New Zion, and Siloam. The exercises consisted of an address by the president, reports from the different societies, and an essay by Miss Lily Avery, of Liberty; subject: "A witness for Jesus."

At 11 o'clock, Elder R. J. Stewart preached an interesting sermon on the subject of missions, selecting his text from the third verse of the forty-third Psalm: "O send out Thy light and Thy truth!" At the conclusion of his discourse a number of young ladies passed through the audience and took up a collection amounting to fifty-two dollars, which will be used for missionary purposes.

An intermission of two hours was given for dinner, when the congregation re-assembled to witness the

afternoon exercises of the Ladies' Missionary Union. Miss Ena Jenkins, of Gloster, read an essay on the subject of "Sowing and Reaping," which was listened to with marked attention, as was also the essay of Miss Helen Hodges, of Mars Hill, entitled "Sacrifices for Jesus," at the conclusion of which Elder Wm. L. A. Stranburg delivered an interesting address on the subject of "Woman's Work in the Missionary Field."

FOURTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Monday, October 10, 1887.

The Association convened at 10 o'clock.

The devotional exercise was conducted by Elder Stranburg.

The minutes were read and approved.

Bro. Geo. F. Webb read the report of the Committee on Mississippi College, which was discussed, amended and adopted. [Appendix G.]

Elder W. L. A. Stranburg read the report of the Committee on Sustentation, which was discussed, amended and adopted. [Appendix H.]

At 12 o'clock the Association adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder C. H. Otken.

On motion of Bro. H. I. Weathersby, speeches were limited to five minutes.

Elder E. T. Smith read the report of the Committee on Sunday Schools, which was discussed and adopted. [Appendix I.]

Bro. H. R. Causey read report of the Finance Committee, which was adopted without discussion. [Appendix J.]

Eld. Stranburg read report of Committee on Foreign Missions, which was discussed and adopted. [Appendix K.]

Bro. Geo. F. Webb read report of the Committee on Lea Female College, which was discussed and adopted. [Appendix L.]

Bro. Geo. M. Cain read report of the Committee on Nominations, which was adopted. [Appendix M.]

Eld. H. G. Quin read report of the Committee on Apportionment which was adopted. [Appendix N.]

Bro. W. Z. Lea submitted his annual report as Treasurer of the Association, which was received and approved. [Appendix O.]

The report of the Committee on Abstract of Letters was adopted without reading. [Appendix P.]

The report of the Committee on Obituaries was read by Bro. Winchester Everett and adopted without discussion. [Appendix Q.]

Eld. R. N. Hall read report of the Committee on Plan of Work, which was discussed and adopted. [Appendix R.]

On motion of Bro. S. S. Faust it was suggested to the churches to appoint three ladies and two gentlemen

in each church to raise money for missions. The committee to be under the supervision of the member of the Executive Board in that church.

The Association then proceeded to select, by vote of the delegates, a place for holding its next session, which resulted in the selection of Liberty, Amite Co., Miss.

Sister P. L. Bates submitted her report as Vice-president of the Central Committee on Woman's Work for Missions, which was received and approved. The report shows that during the past associational year, she has organized seven new societies and that the several local societies now under her supervision have contributed the sum of \$120 for missions.

On motion, Sister Bates was re-elected Vice-president of the Central Committee on Woman's Work for Missions, and on further motion, she was authorized to draw on the treasurer of the Association for funds to purchase all stationery used in the discharge of her work.

The following resolutions were introduced and passed as in the order written.

By Bro. W. Z. Lea:

Resolved, That the Association expresses its unqualified disapproval of any licensed or ordained minister who uses his influence in the interests of immorality or who supports an acknowledged evil.

By Bro. G. F. Webb:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered

to the members of this church and to the people of this neighborhood for their kindness in entertaining the delegates, while the Association was in session.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body also be tendered to the officers of this Association for the efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Association prepare and have the minutes of this session printed; that he be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for funds to defray the expenses of the same, and that he be allowed twenty-five dollars for his services.

On motion the minutes of the entire session were approved without being read, and after a few encouraging remarks by the Moderator, the brethren sang "We are marching home to Zion," during which the delegates gave the parting hand, and then the Association adjourned to meet with the Liberty Baptist Church, Amite county, on Friday before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1888.

Closing prayer by Elder R. J. Stewart.

D. M. HUFF,

Clerk.

R. N. HALL,

Moderator.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Names.	Postoffice.
Peter Turner, Centreville,	Wilkinson Co., Miss.
W. W. Bolls, Zion Hill,	Amite
W. H. Tucker, Gillsburg,	Amite
H. G. Quin, Dickey's Mill,	Amite
Thomas Lansdell, Olio,	Amite
S. H. Thompson, Liberty,	Amite
R. N. Hall, Dickey,	Amite
T. C. Schilling, Gillsburg,	Amite
Chas. H. Otken, Summit,	Pike
S. R. Young, Summit,	Pike
T. P. Stewart, Meadville,	Franklin
Zach. Loftin, McCall's Creek,	Franklin
W. H. Weatherley, Union Church,	Jefferson
W. L. A. Stranburg,	" " "
Jas. M. Cook, Magnolia,	Pike
R. J. Boone, Brookhaven,	Lincoln
R. J. Stewart, Greensburg,	La.
R. W. Merrill, Magnolia,	Pike

LICENTIATES.

M. M. Whitney, Summit, Miss.
J. R. Mullin, Meadville, Miss.

APPENDICES.

A.— Report of Committee on Prohibition.

Your committee on Prohibition would respectfully submit as their report the report received and adopted by the State Baptist Convention at its last session, as follows:

The use of strong drink is a great curse upon the world to day. The saloon fosters this use to the greatest degree, and fastens the curse upon our race. It is the worst form of the nefarious traffic. It is there that the habit of drunkenness is formed; there idleness and vice are nurtured; there law-breaking is practiced; there gambling, blasphemies, licentiousness, murders and all manner of iniquities have their most favorable environment. Oh! how many deeds of shame and of blood have their origin and development in these dens of infamy! We believe that the traffic in strong drink is a crime in the sight of God, and ought to be considered a crime in the eyes of the civil law. We would write crime in large letters over every saloon in the world.

It is the duty of Christians to prevent crime by removing its sources, according to moral and legal methods. It is their duty to put an end, in proper ways, to the manufacture, use and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. To this we feel committed, for

the sake of Christ's cause, for the sake of law and order, for the sake of humanity. This we can do finally by various plans.

1st. By abstaining from the use of intoxicating drinks of all kinds and names. In this way we can save ourselves from intemperance, and remove a great stumbling block out of the way of many souls. If meat make my brother to stumble, I will eat no more meat while the world stands, is the apostle's rule of abstinence. And if all would quit drinking, the traffic would cease.

2d. By instruction as to the evil effects of strong drink upon body, mind and soul. The hygiene of the drink habit should be made clear to all children of the land. Besides the moral teaching on that subject in family, Sunday school and pulpit, there ought to be scientific instruction given on this question in all our denominational, public and State schools. We pledge our influence to the enactment of laws requiring such instruction in our public schools.

3d. By scriptural doctrine and patient, firm discipline in our churches, regarding the sale of intoxicants as beverages. Every church must take high grounds on this question, and maintain it with unwavering firmness. Your committee believe that any person who sells intoxicating drinks, who visits saloons, or in any way advocates or abets the iniquitous traffic, is unfit to be a member of the church of Jesus Christ. The churches must wash their hands clean of this defiling

business so dark with crime, so red with blood, if they are to retain the favor of God, or the respect of men. "Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation!"

4th. By giving our influence to the enactment of laws suppressing the traffic, by the prompt and full enforcement of all laws against the traffic, and by voting for such men only for offices of honor and trust as are opposed to the traffic, we can promote the cause of temperance most effectively. The family, the school, the church, the law and the ballot box are all invoked to aid in removing this curse from the earth.

In conclusion, we speak with gratitude of the position taken by the preachers, teachers, and better instructed classes of colored people, as a rule, against the traffic, and we urge that our people give them all the instruction and encouragement consistent with social order, law, morals and religion. Hasten the day when alcohol shall no more blight and curse the earth.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BOLLS, *Chairman.*

B.--Report of Committee on Publications.

Your Committee on Publications would report: We believe it the duty of Christians to avail themselves of every influence by which their growth in purpose and in service for the Master may be promoted. Moral strength comes from the exercise of moral qualities. The development of the individual Christian depends largely upon the motives of action. Base motives will

produce a base life. Exalted motives lead to exalted conduct. A life fruitless in service for God and humanity, is traceable to spiritual poverty in motives. No fact is clearer than this, that a useful, Christian life is a product. Without wholesome, moral and religious food, an earnest, useful, Christian life is an impossibility.

Christian newspapers have a most beneficent mission in the development of a vigorous, Christian life. The practical, good effect of a religious newspaper in a family cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

We, therefore, commend most heartily to all our brethren that they subscribe for—

1. *The Southern Baptist Record*, published at Meridian, Miss.
2. *The Sword and Shield*, published at Jackson, Miss.
5. *Foreign Mission Journal*, published at Richmond, Va.
4. *THE MAGNOLIA GAZETTE*, published at Magnolia, Miss. This is a secular paper, decidedly moral in tone and worthy of earnest support and a place in every family.

CHAS. H. OTKEN,
T. P. STEWART,
W. T. JOHNS,
W. A. PRATHER,
J. D. CRANFIELD,
Committee.

C.—Report of Committee on Home and State Missions.

Your Committee on Home and State Missions beg leave to report: That, in our opinion, it is a wise and good measure towards the advancement of the Master's cause, and that we continue to co-operate with the State Board. That we recommend to the different churches composing this body, to pay over to the State Board all money collected for State Missions, to be equally distributed throughout the State as they, in their judgment, deem best.

The State Board wishes to widen their work, and in order to do so, require more money, and think that one thousand dollars from this body, with proportional amounts from other bodies like this, will be sufficient to accomplish their work.

Therefore, we recommend that this body request the churches to raise their proportionate amount as soon as convenient and in the best manner they can.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

T. J. SCOTT,

Chairman.

D.—Disorderly Churches.

Your Committee on Disorderly Churches beg leave to submit the following:

After making a thorough investigation, we are pleased to state that the churches which were charged last year with being in disorder, have settled the troubles that existed and righted themselves before the world and this Association.

We recommend to the churches that they watch in all things and endeavor to keep pure and unspotted from the world in future.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. A. STRANBURG,

Chairman.

E.—Report of Committee on Resolution from New Hope Church.

Your Committee on the case of Bro. J. R. Mullins would report as follows:

We have received satisfactory evidence that the first wife of Bro. Mullins was excluded from New Hope Church for scriptural cause. Such is the written record of that church, and we therefore revise the decision of the committee appointed by this Association last year, and conclude that there is no bar now to his ordination.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. H. OTKEN,

THOS. P. STEWART.

G. M. CAIN.

F.—Report of Committee on Resolution from Summit Church.

Your Committee on Ministers' Credentials would urge upon churches the necessity of satisfying themselves, beyond a doubt, as to the credentials of transient ministers before allowing them the use of the pulpit; and when a doubt exists, that they demand of

said ministers references as to their moral and Christian character.

Respectfully,

R. J. STEWART, *Chairman.*

G.—Report of Committee on Mississippi College.

Your committee appointed to report upon this institution of learning beg leave to say:

That they have considered with some care the subject submitted to them for report. That the continued success in the working of this, our denominational college, during most of the years of its history, gives encouragement for renewed efforts on the part of its friends, and inspires confidence in grand results in its long future. The realization of the high hopes of the friends of this college can only be reached by liberal advancement of money, the raising of which requires effort and some sacrifice, all of which however is not to be compared with the good resulting from such efforts as denominational pride should call forth. •We further report, that we regard the college as standing on a lasting basis; yet in order to meet the high expectation of the people of the State and the development of the great work outlined in its organization, we suggest, that a permanent endowment is greatly needed, and that a system be inaugurated at an early day, through the operation of which capital will find a safe investment in this grand old Baptist college. This college sustains the highest literary character and the support and maintainance of which we regard as a pres-

sing Christian duty from which we can only be relieved by the advancement of our means "according as God has blessed us."

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. F. WEBB, *Chairman.*

H.—Report of Committee on Sustentation.

Your Committee on Sustentation beg leave to report that there are some ministers in this Association, aged and infirm, who have worn themselves out in preaching the gospel to the people and to-day are sorely neglected. We, therefore, recommend to the churches that a collection of six dollars be raised in every church of this Association during the ensuing year, except Centreville and Galilee, and we further recommend that the amount so raised be paid to Elder W. H. Tucker.

Respectfully submitted.

W. Z. LEE, *Chairman.*

I.—Report of Committee on Sunday Schools.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, would report the following:

That the Sunday School is truly the auxiliary of the church; the place where good material may be fitly prepared for the church and society; where the truths of the gospel may be firmly planted in the soul. In attending the Sunday School, we observe the sanctity of the Sabbath, and thus honor and glorify God. In the Sunday School we make the great flank movement that will thwart the matchless evil, intemperance, and

carry prohibition all over our land. We urge upon every church the absolute necessity of having a good Sunday School, and recommend that she put forth her best energies in teaching the Bible for the sake of its great truths.

Respectfully,

E. T. SMITH, *Chairman.*

J.— **Report of Committee on Finance.**

Your Committee on Finance would report as follows:

Received for Associational purposes.....	\$68.00
" " State Missions	55.35
" " Foreign Missions.....	23.40
" " Ministerial Education	3.75
" " Sustentation.....	50
" " Building.....	50
" " Missions	2.95
Total	<u>\$154.45</u>

We have examined the Treasurer's report and find the same correct.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. HODGES,

S. S. FAUST,

H. R. CAUSEY,

Committee.

K.— **Report of Committee on Foreign Missions.**

Your committee on Foreign Missions would beg leave to submit the following:

We believe the time has come when Christians.

should hearken and heed the gentle voice of Jesus saying: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel unto every creature." This we recognize as the marching order of the church to-day. Information concerning the actual condition of the heathen and the relation which the church sustains to them, is greatly needed by many members of our church. We, therefore, recommend to the pastors of this Association that they inform themselves in regard to this all-important work and present to their churches facts concerning the solemn obligation that Jesus has placed upon every individual who becomes a member of His church.

We give below a statistical report of the destitution of some of the Foreign fields and hope, dear brethren, that it will find a warm place near your hearts, and be the means of opening your purses for foreign missions.

In China we find fifteen hundred counties without a single preacher of the gospel. Two hundred and fifty million women in that dark land depend upon the women of America for the gospel. One thousand million souls are dying in Christless despair at the rate of one hundred thousand per day in Siberia and Turkistan. There are twenty-one million of souls and not a single missionary in Anam. In Hoonam there are seventy million without the gospel. In the entire foreign field there are one billion two hundred and eleven million one hundred and forty-one thousand two hundred and seventy who never hear the gospel:

With these facts staring us in the face, we recommend to the churches that they request a contribution from every member for mission work. This we ask for Jesus' sake and for the sake of those who know not the story of the cross. We further recommend that this Association should heartily co-operate with the Foreign Mission Board, located at Richmond, Va., and support the Foreign Mission Journal, which gives the necessary information concerning this important work.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. L. A. STRANBURG,

Chairman.

L.—Report of Committee on Lea Female College.

Your Committee reports that this excellent college is situated at the city of Summit, Pike county, Mississippi, on the Illinois Central railroad, a place noted for refinement and health; that it is under the immediate supervision of Elder C. H. Otken, president, assisted by a corps of teachers, all of whom rank high in scholarship, and are experienced educators. This chartered institution is well established, having been successfully conducted for ten years, during which time thirty-five young ladies have received diplomas, which are the highest testimonials of scholarship.

When we consider the status of this college and its surroundings, the moral and religious influences thrown around the pupils while under the watch care of the president and teachers in the course of their education,

and further consider the mighty influence of so many thoroughly educated ladies, who come out of the Lea Female College to assume the duties and responsibilities of a refined life, upon which they entered upon their graduation, we can but look upon this college as a blessing, not only to the people of Summit, but to the people of South Mississippi, and of which this body may well be proud, and take pleasure in recommending all who have daughters or wards to educate, to send them to this safe institution to be educated. We further recommend this college to the favorable consideration of the Baptist denomination generally, and a full endorsement by this Association. We further report that the financial condition of the majority of the people precludes the possibility of securing higher educational advantages. We, therefore, urge upon the president the necessity of devising some more economical plan. Other female colleges having adopted what is termed the family system of boarding, have thereby secured a large increase of scholarship among the more needy, conferring an incalculable blessing upon those who otherwise are deprived of an education. We further report that this system is fully in accord with the views of the president.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. F. WEBB, *President.*

M.—Report of Committee on Nominations.

Your Committee on Nominations would submit the following as their report :

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Liberty Church, J. D. Lea, G. F. Webb, W. Z. Lea, T. J. Webb and Wm. Whittaker; Mars Hill, P. L. Marselas; New Salem, J. F. Porter; Rameh, Jas. E. Rushing; New Hope, W. A. Prather; New Providence, H. R. Causey; Mount Zion, W. A. Lea; Sarepta, J. L. Weatherley; Zion Hill, H. K. Butler; Galilee, S. S. Faust; Centreville, J. C. Roberts; New Zion, Z. E. Nunnery; Summit, W. J. Smith; McComb City, S. R. Quin; Ebenezer, C. A. Young; Hopewell, T. J. Scott; Siloam, W. D. Jones; Bethel, H. N. Shaw; East Fork, H. G. Quin.

To preach introductory sermon at next Association, Elder C. H. Otken, Alternate Elder Thos. Lansdell.

Respectfully submitted,

G. M. CAIN, *Chairman.*

N.—Report of Committee on Apportionment.

Your Committee on Apportionment recommend that each church in the Association raise for the purposes to which we contribute, an amount proportionate to the amount of fifty cents per member, as follows :

Bethel.....	\$25
Centreville	15
East Fork.....	25
Ebenezer.....	85
Galilee	92
Hopewell	30

Liberty	\$95
Mars Hill.....	110
McComb City.....	71
Mount Zion.....	130
Hew Hope.....	36
New Providence.....	51
New Salem.....	27
New Zion.....	30
Rameh	88
Sarepta.....	25
Siloam.....	35
Summit.....	75
Zion Hill.....	80

\$1,125

Respectfully submitted,
H. G. QUIN, *Chairman.*

Tresurer's Report.

W. Z. LEA, *in account with The Mississippi Baptist Association.*

Balance on hand last report, Associational Fund	\$ 31 65	
Received from the Finance Committee, Associational Fund.....	51 85	83 50
CR.	6	
Paid J. B. Gambrell for Minutes	56 70	
" D. M. Huff, clerk	25 00	
		81 70
Balance due Association	1 80	
Received from the Finance Committee—		
For State Mission.....	6 45	
" Foreign Mission.....	13 95	
" Ministerial Education	50	

...\$95
 ...110
 ...71
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 ...51
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 ...75
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83 50

81 70

For Home Missions.....	9 00	
" Sustentation	35	
" Church Building	75	
Missions sent by Churches and collections		
Sunday	87 30	
		120 10
CR.		
Paid Elder L. Ball	66 00	
" " J. B. Gambrell.....	40 00	
Balance due Treasurer last report.....	12 60	
		118 60
Balance due Association.....	1 50	
Received from Mars Hill Church State Mis-		
sions	85 00	
Received from Ebenezer Church State Mis-		
sions.....	15 80	
Received from Hopewell Church Foreign		
Missions.....	10 00	
Summit as follows—		
To Elder J. B. Gambrell.....	5 00	
" S. H. Thompson	5 00	
" Bagley, Missionary to Brazil	29 00	
Liberty Church and Sabbath School.....	136 60	
" " to Mississippi College.....	22 00	
" " Baptist Publication Society.....	12 00	
" " Elder S. H. Thompson.....	5 00	
Amount collected by Ladies' Aid Society at		
Liberty	10 00	
		337 60
CR.		
Paid State Board.....	262 10	
" Bro. Bagley	29 00	
" Mississippi College.....	22 00	
" Bro. Thompson	10 00	
" Baptist Publication Society.....	12 00	
		336 10
Balance due Association	\$ 1 50	

The sums of money sent me since last Association were paid out according to instructions from the churches and receipts obtained for the same.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Z. LEA,

Treasurer Mississippi Association.

P.—Report of Committee on Abstracts.

Your Committee on Abstracts of Letters report as follows:

New Hope—Reports prosperity. Pastor, Elder Wm. Stranburg.

East Fork—Condition harmonious and prosperous. No pastor since July last, but have had preaching regularly all the while by Elder H. G. Quin and others.

Galilee—Reports spiritual condition of the church not as good as desirable. Pastor, Elder Peter Turner.

Hopewell—Reports peace and harmony. Pastor, Elder W. W. Bolls.

Centreville—Reports prosperity. Pastor, Elder Peter Turner.

Siloam—Reports prosperity and has harmony. Pastor, Elder W. W. Bolls.

Rameh—Reports condition prosperous. Pastor, Elder R. J. Boon.

Mt. Zion—Reports prosperous, spiritual condition good, peace and harmony prevail. Pastor, Elder R. N. Hall.

Liberty—Reports harmony and peace. No pastor since July last, but preaching occasionally by visiting ministers.

McComb City—Reports spiritual condition good.
Pastor, Elder R. W. Merrill.

New Zion—Reports condition peace and harmony.
Pastor, Elder James Cook.

Ebenezer—Reports spiritual condition revived. Pastor, Elder Thos. Lansdell.

New Providence—Reports condition perfect harmony and brotherly love. Pastor, Elder Thos. Lansdell.

Zion Hill—Reports an increased interest in the cause of Christ. Pastor, Elder R. J. Stewart.

Mars Hill—Reports membership revived. Pastor, Elder R. N. Hall.

New Salem—Condition prosperous. Pastor, Elder W. L. A. Stranburg.

Summit—Reports condition spiritually is far short of what it should be. Pastor, Elder Chas. H. Otken.

Bethel—Received by a petitionary letter. Committee on said letter and articles of faith reports said church orthodox. Pastor, Elder T. C. Schilling.

Very respectfully submitted,

H. G. QUIN, *Chairman.*

Q.—Report of Committee on Obituaries.

The Committee on Obituaries beg leave to report.

That we find from reports from our body that death is a constant reminder of the fate of all, and it is with sadness we report the death of some of our most faithful and earnest workers in the Lord's cause.

Without having proper information to make a more extended report, we can only make a brief mention of our losses.

Mt. Zion has suffered the greatest loss of her membership, four: two of whom were deacons, Bros. H. S. Anderson and Christopher Young.

Their wise counsel and faithful services are widely known, and we can truly say their influence is still working for the Master's cause.

Besides these we have to report the following losses from the church: East Fork, 1; Liberty, 1; New Hope, 1; Hopewell, 3; Ebenezer, 2; Siloam, 1; Zion Hill, 1; Rameh, 1.

Respectfully submitted by the Committee,

W. EVERETT,
DAVID NUNNERY,
G. L. DICKEY.

R.—Report on Plan of Work.

At each session of the body there shall be appointed an Executive Board to consist of one member (a layman) from each church, to which shall be added all of the regular ordained ministers of the gospel within the bounds of the Association. This Board to be empowered to act for the Association in all matters pertaining to the question of "Mission Work" between the adjournments and meetings of the body. This Board shall be located at Liberty, until in the wisdom of the *Association* some other place is considered more desirable. They shall meet regularly once a quarter, regulating all of the details of the meeting themselves. In organizing they shall elect a president and secretary, the treasurer of the Association being required to meet

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with them to receive all money collected by them. This Executive Board shall through their secretary make a report in detail to the Association at each session. In order to secure a full attendance at each meeting of the Board, any member unavoidably prevented or hindered from attending may represent himself by proxy. In order to secure a quorum at each meeting, the small number of five brethren shall constitute a quorum; and in order to make it absolutely certain that a quorum will be present at each appointed meeting, we add four additional names of brethren from the Liberty church. The clerk of the Association shall keep this plan amended from time to time.

H. R. CAUSEY, *Chairman.*

ARTICLES OF FAITH

OF THE

Mississippi Baptist Association.

1. We believe in only one true living God, and that there is a trinity in persons in the God-head—the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, are of Divine authority, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the fall of Adam, in the imputation of his sins to all his posterity, in the total depravity of human nature, and in man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.
4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people, in the eternal, unconditional election of a definite number of the human family to grace and glory.
5. We believe that sinners are only justified, in the sight of God, by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, which is unto all and upon all them that believe.
6. We believe all those who were chosen in Christ, before the foundation of the world, are, in time, effect-

ually called, regenerated, converted and sanctified; and are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

7. We believe there is one Mediator between God and men—the man Christ Jesus, who, by the satisfaction he made to law and justice, in becoming an offering for sin, hath, by his most precious blood, redeemed the elect from under the curse of the law that they might be holy and without blame before him in love.

8. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, are evidences of a gracious state; and that it is the duty of all believers to perform them from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment; that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting.

GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that the visible Church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of faithful persons, who have given themselves up to the Lord, and to one another, and have covenanted to keep up a godly discipline, agreeable to the rules of the gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of the church—the only Lawgiver—and the government is with the body of the church, and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the gospel ordinances appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the church.

4. We believe that baptism by immersion is the only Scriptural mode, and that believers are the only proper subjects.

5. We believe that none but regularly baptized church members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6. We believe it to be the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to baptism by immersion, and to give themselves as members of the visible church.

7. We believe it to be the duty of every organized church to expel from her communion all disorderly members who are immoral in their lives, or hold doctrines contrary to scripture.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. Those delegates who are regularly chosen by the churches of our Union shall compose the Association.

2. The delegates so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated, and dead since the last Association.

3. Delegates thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the "Mississippi Baptist Association."

4. The Association shall have a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into

Union, they shall petition by letter and delegates. If on examination found orthodox and orderly, they shall be received by the Association, manifested by the moderator giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

6. No church in the Union shall have a right to more than two delegates until she shall exceed one hundred members; then she shall have a right to an additional delegate for every fifty.

7. Every query sent to the Association by any church in the Union shall be read and put to a vote by the moderator whether it shall be debated; and if there shall be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated; provided, always, that those be first considered which affect the union of the churches.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by the Association, except it be withdrawn by the person who made it.

9. Only one person shall speak at once, who shall rise from his seat and address the moderator.

10. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted except he depart from the subject, break the Rules of Decorum, or cast reflections on a brother, in which case he shall be immediately called to order by the moderator.

11. No person shall speak more than twice on the subject without leave of the Association.

12. No brother shall be suffered to whisper or laugh during the conference, neither shall he absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

13. The Moderator shall have the liberty of speaking on any question that may be debated ; provided the chair may be previously filled, and have the privilege of voting only when the Association is equally divided.

14. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as often as the Association may deem expedient.

15. We think it absolutely necessary to have an Associational fund for defraying the expenses of the same, for the raising and supporting of which we think it the duty of each church in the Union to contribute such sums as it may think proper, and send them by their delegates to the Association, and the money thus contributed by the churches shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer, by the Association appointed, who shall be accountable to the Association for all the money by him received, and paid out according to the direction of the same.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

17. These Rules of Decorum and Gospel Order may be altered, changed or amended, from time to time, or any part of them, when a majority of all the churches in the Association shall deem it necessary, but the Articles of Faith shall not be subject to any alterations only as respect form.

Powers of the Association.

1. It shall be the business of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches.
2. To keep up a friendly correspondence (when convenient) with other Associations of the same faith and order.
3. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.
4. It shall be the duty of the Association to give the churches the best advice in its power, in difficult matters; to inquire into any difficulties which may exist between sister churches, and remove them if possible.
5. To admit any of the brethren in the ministry as associates, but not to give them the privilege of voting.
6. This Association shall have the power to withdraw from any church in the Union, which may be unsound in principle or immoral in practice, until reclaimed.
7. To appoint any person or persons, by and with their consent, to transact any business which the Association may deem necessary.
8. The Association shall have the power to adjourn to any time or place they may think proper.
9. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE.	Number of members last year.	Baptized this year.	Received by letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by letter.	Excluded.	Died.	Present membership.	CONTRIBUTIONS.						Total.	Number Minutes wanted.
												Missions.	Mississippi College.	Ministerial education.	Ministerial help.	Sustentation.	Building purposes.		
Bethel.....	T. C. Schilling.....	L. H. Haygood.....	Liberty.....	1523	13	13					51	2 00	3 00		15 85			20 85	20
Centreville.....	P. Turner.....	G. P. McGehee.....	Centreville.....	30	3	3		6			27	3 00	29 25					32 25	30
East Fork.....	None.....	E. A. Bates.....	Bates' Mill.....	186	6	4	8	8	4	1	191	4 00					620 00	624 00	40
Ebenezer.....	T. Lansdale.....	R. D. J. Smith.....	Olio.....	168	12	3	10	2	2	2	171	3 00	23 60					26 60	35
Galilee.....	P. Turner.....	S. T. Van Norman.....	Gloster.....	154	20	14	2	2	2		186	4 00	7 10					11 70	30
Hopewell.....	W. W. Bolls.....	H. H. Magee.....	Meadville.....	63	4	4	4	4	4	3	56	3 00	3 25					9 50	20
Liberty.....	None.....	W. Z. Lea.....	Liberty.....	153	34	7	3	6	1	1	184	4 00	290 70					294 70	30
Mars Hill.....	R. N. Hall.....	J. A. Burris.....	Summit.....	188	22	8	2	1			215	7 50	85 00					117 50	60
McComb City.....	R. W. Merrill.....	E. H. Montgomery.....	McComb.....	126	20	2	2	2			148	3 00	35 75					143 75	40
Mount Zion.....	R. N. Hall.....	W. A. Lea.....	Little Springs.....	217	47	3	5	9	1	4	258	8 00	22 45	25 00				75 95	75
New Hope.....	W. L. A. Stranburg.....	G. E. Smith.....	Meadville.....	51	6	8	3	5		1	62	3 00						8 00	15
New Provid'ce.....	T. Lansdell.....	J. C. Causey.....	Merwin.....	78	16	3	3	3			94	4 00	8 30					12 30	40
New Salem.....	W. L. A. Stranburg.....	Henry Ballard.....	McCall's Creek.....	35	13	7	1	1			55	3 00	6 25				50	14 35	25
New Zion.....	J. M. Cook.....	Z. E. Nunnery.....	Liberty.....	63	8			1			70	3 50						3 50	30
Rameh.....	R. J. Boone.....	H. H. Butler.....	McCall's Creek.....	144	39	6	7	4		1	191	5 50	8 75					14 25	50
Sarepta.....	No letter.....			80															
Siloam.....	W. W. Bolls.....	W. D. Jones.....	Liberty.....	57	24	3	2	4		1	81	3 00						3 60	30
Summit.....	C. H. Otken.....	M. C. Dunn.....	Summit.....	133	25	6	1	4	8		153	3 00	51 30					59 00	232 70
Zion Hill.....	R. J. Stewart.....	W. R. Jacobs.....	Zion Hill.....	160	10	2		12	3	1	156	4 00	5 75				286 85	301 60	30



